

REMARKS

In a Final Office Action mailed on August 11, 2009, objections were made to the Abstract; claims 1, 8, 49 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Liu; claims 2-7, 9-12, 50-55 and 57-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Brooks; claims 13 and 61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Mohr; claims 14-21, 28-31 and 62-69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu; and claims 22 and 70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Vaynshteyn.

The Abstract has been replaced to overcome the corresponding objections.

Regarding the § 102 rejection of independent claim 1 in view of Liu, in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, a single reference must teach each and every element of the claim. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987). In fact, "[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Furthermore, in order for a reference to be anticipatory, "[its] elements must be arranged as required by the claim." *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831 (Fed. Cir. 1990), *cited in* M.P.E.P. § 2131.

As amended, the detonator assembly of independent claim 1 recites that the capacitor, initiator, transformer and addressable chip form a unified integrated detonating unit. As explained in the specification, the unified structure of the detonator assembly may have certain advantages, such as allowing the detonator to be small enough to be packaged inside a standard detonator housing, increases the applications and field uses of the detonator assembly and reduces the costs associated with manufacturing the detonator assembly. Other and different advantages are contemplated in accordance with other embodiments of the invention.

Entry of the amendment to claim 1 requested for at least the reason that the Examiner has already considered a detonator assembly where the capacitor, initiator, transformer and addressable chip are integrated as a single unit together. *See, for example*, Final Office Action, p. 11. Therefore, no further consideration and/or search is required.

Liu fails to anticipate amended independent claim 1 for at least the reason that Liu fails to disclose a detonator assembly that includes several of the explicitly-recited limitations of this claim, such as a capacitor, initiator, transformer and addressable chip that form a unified integrated detonating unit. Instead of such an arrangement, Liu discloses uphole and downhole

components that are connected together by wires. However, these components do not form a unified integrated detonating unit, as claimed. Thus, for at least this reason, amended independent claim 1 overcomes the § 102 rejection.

For similar reasons, independent claim 49 is patentable over the cited art, in that the cited art fails to disclose explicitly-recited elements of this claim, such as a capacitor, an initiator, a transformer and an addressable chip that form a unified integrated detonating unit.

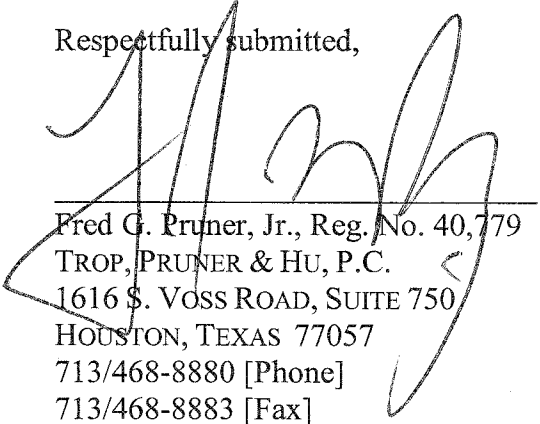
Dependent claims 2-22, 28-31 and 50-70 overcome the §§ 102 and 103 rejections for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable claims for the reasons that are set forth above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (SHL.0296US).

Respectfully submitted,

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